The Industrial Labour Welfare Association Ltd.,

THE INDUSTRIAL EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITION 1952

Speeches by

Mr. G. D. NAIDU,
PRESIDENT,
Industrial Labour Welfare Association Limited

The Hon'ble Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Minister for Law and Education, Mysore State,

The Hon'ble Sri T. SIDDALINGAIYA,
Minister for Industries, Mysore State

and

Mr. S. RAMANATHAN,
Editor: 'Rationalist', Madras.

GOPAL BAGH **Sep. 24, 1952** COIMBATORE

The Industrial Labour Welfare Association Ltd.,

THE INDUSTRIAL EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITION 1952

Speeches by

Mr. G. D. NAIDU,
PRESIDENT,
Industrial Labour Welfare Association Limited

The Hon'ble Sri A. G. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Minister for Law and Education, Mysore State,

The Hon'ble Sri T. SIDDALINGAIYA,
Minister for Industries, Mysore State

and

Mr. S. RAMANATHAN,
Editor: 'Rationalist', Madras.

GOPAL BAGH   Sep. 24, 1952   COIMBATORE

The Industrial Labour Welfare Association Ltd.,
COIMBATORE.

A party was arranged on 24th September 1952 at 5–30 p. m. at Gopal Bagh by Mr. G. D. Naidu, President of the Industrial Labour Welfare Association Ltd., to meet the Hon'ble Sri T. Siddalingaiya, Minister for Industries, Mysore State and the Hon'ble Sri A. G. Ramachandra Rao, Minister for Law and Education, Mysore State who were invited to see the Industrial Educational Exhibition.

After the party was over, Mr. G. D. Naidu gave an address touching briefly on the apathy of the present administrative machinery in India towards industry and how Mysore State is in a favourable position to open Diesel Factory and Cottage Industries and also to introduce Short term Courses to meet the urgent requirements of technical skill for the industrial development of the country.

The two Hon'ble Ministers then spoke at great length about the progress of industry and industrial education in their State and also expressed their admiration for Mr. Naidu, for his foresight and wisdom in studying the conditions of the country, anticipating the needs of the country, and also laying very fine foundations in this Exhibition in order to meet those needs for the development of industry and industrial education. The party was brought to a close by a vote of thanks by Mr. S. Ramanathan who spoke on the obstacles that stand in the way of Mr. Naidu in starting industries for which he is ready.

Speech by

Mr. G. D. NAIDU.

Friends :

I don't think it is necessary to introduce our chief guests by names and their occupations as I believe you know, whom you meet here at this party. Though introduction of the guests is a formality, I do not follow that formality but I want to introduce them by explaining their qualities which they own.

In our states, I think, and many of you think likewise, that ministership is secured by the power of the parties they represent and they occupy their position because of their desire of the power, whether they are fit or not. Even though the ministers are swimming in the sea of power, they are not able to do anything according to their wish as the leading strings are held by the administrative machinery. Of course it is not the fault of the officers but the training they had, had no relation to the subjects they are asked to deal.

Generally, we see that ministers as well as the leaders of the parties wish to do some good to the country but are not able to do anything because of the same defect. Even now, they take so much trouble after having taken up the responsible position in the Government in order that they may do some good to the country.

At the beginning of their appoinment, by the enthusiasm they receive from their parties and the fresh energy they possess, they try to do some good without fear or favour even though the leading strings of the officers are held tight. Unfortunately, gradually but inevitably, their enthusiasm and energy get exhausted and they get conditioned by the adminstrative machinery.

In former days, though we were under foreign rule, the administrative machinery was kept in working order, replacing from time to time the worn out parts with genuine new parts, with the help of the depreciation funds. But, now, the depreciation fund is exhausted. There is now no safety in the administrative machinery. The replacement of worn out parts of that machinery is made by non-genuine prewar-days' inferior Japanese parts. This kind of danger is increasing day by day. We see this state of the Government in our daily life almost in all the states in India.

The ministers of the Mysore State who are our chief guests today are beyond the purview of this description. I do not know their previous activities. I am sure they are able to do their job pretty well. Every one of you know by experience, that though a person is an expert in one line, he cannot manage that particular business without the help from other experts in the same line. But a person with keen interest, with a driving force and with ability in administration and organization can achieve

his aim in any direction. You may ask how it is possible, when he is not an expert in that particular line. If a person is the head of the section of the Government, he has the power, if he has the ambition to do something, say in Industry, Agriculture, Education, Business, Health and other subjects. He is able to select a proper man for the work who can do the job and he can extract 100 per cent work from him. In that way, any minister can achieve his aim. Our chief guests, in addition to the qualifications and experience in their lines, have got the keenness and the desire to secure the co-operation of such experts. I am saying this from the little experience I had recently when I had personal conversation with our chief guests at Bangalore, when I attended the several functions and meetings held in connection with All-India Manufacturers Organization and the 93rd Birthday celebrations of our Industrial Leader Sir M. Visvesvaraya.

For the last few years I had no opportunity to go to Mysore State, while I visited several other states in our country. I have seen great differences in the mentality, morality and honesty of the people between those now living and those that lived before. I was driven to think that I was in some other country and not in India where people have become degenerated and degraded. Not only is this so with the people but it is so in the administrative machinery of this country. Nowhere do we see any respect and regard for each other among

the people or between the public and the government or amongst the administrators and the parties. Looked at from outside we find sympathetic lectures promising co-operation and there are nice talks. There is nothing real or sincere inside.

But it is quite different in Mysore. It is a wonder how the people of Mysore have not changed while people in neighbouring states have undergone such changes. The administrative groups, with leaders and ministers, two of whom are our chief guests today, are so much in agreement with each other and display such mutual trust. We see how they honour and love the Maharaja, how much gratitude and kindness they show to Sir M. Visvesvaraya; we find a brotherly feeling is existing between the ministers and the public. There may be small defects, but I do not know personally if there are any. If we see the general condition, even though some of the Mysoreans say that Mysore is a poor country, we have to think that Mysore is a country rich in industry and forward in Education which is the best wealth for any country in the world. For this wealth, there are enough raw-material in our country. But to turn raw material into pucca wealth of the nation, certain other things are necessary. They are knowledge of our resources and the understanding as to how to use them profitably and the determination to achieve something. These are the real tools to turn the raw material into the useful wealth

of the nation. Further, the untiring efforts of Sir M. Visvesvaraya added to the boundless love of the Maharaja of his subjects, have been the foundation for the development of Mysore Industries. Other states may boast that they have higher education and bigger industries. By their higher education and bigger industries, a few may be benefited, while the majority of the people are not able to do anything just because of their higher education.

But in Mysore it appears to be quite different. The wealth and the education are more properly used in the industries than in some other states. As I already mentioned, the introduction of industrial education started long ago by the efforts of eminent men like Sir M. Visvesvarayya, Sir Mirza Ismail and kind hearted Maharajas has made the Mysore State as an ideal state in India. This state is therefore attracting more and more industries within its frontiers.

I want to emphasize here one point. Mysore had the fortune to be governed by good Maharajas and eminent Dewans, Ministers and officers who carried out their ideals in practice. During the British administration, why, even during the administration by the Government of Independent India, we are not able to cut out the red tapism. The present Ministers of the Mysore State have gone a long way to remove red-tapism by having closer contact with the public and settling matters with the co-operation of the citizens.

I want to impress on you the fact that the Mysore people are now very fortunate to have Ministers like Sri T. Siddalingaiya and Sri A. G. Ramachandra Rao, who have the important portfolios of Industries and education and Law in their hands. These Ministers also are very fortunate to have such people who would willingly cooperate with them. The Ministers and the people together find ways and means and opportunities to do good to their state with the guidance of the Maharaja. Sir M. Visvesvaraya has given a big prize and this is All-India Manufacturers' Organisation which can guide us for future.

Everyone of you knows about our neighbouring state. Therefore I need not tell anything more. But I want to give expression openly to some of my thoughts which came to my mind during these few days.

Though I am suffering from some pin-pricks and opposition in my work, I have been trying to find out ways and means to save something from waste and if possible to reduce the heavy burden of taxation. With the aid of wealth so saved, people can build up some plans for the benefit of our country to raise the standard of living. With this object I am negotiating for starting here a diesel factory as well as other factories. I am also preparing a scheme in connection with transport which will save the waste of enormous wealth, which is being drained away. If our country had started the

automobile and other factories as suggested by Sir M. Visvesvaraya 15 years ago, our country would be at the top of other countries or at least will be equal to Western countries in respect of industry and science. In this way our country would have saved at least about 560 crores of rupees.

The Bhadrawathi Iron Works is a standing example of the Industrial Development of Mysore. There are still several other industries and educational institutions which require special mentioning. Apart from all these, you have your precious national wealth in Sir M. Visvesvaraya and Sir C. V. Raman and Ministers like you. What else do you want?

With all the good points to the credit of Mysore I have to make one complaint. Though Mysore has to its credit a big iron industry and a cement industry to help construction for new schemes, plenty of electric power to run machines, sufficient skilled labour with necessary proper education, to take up various schemes immediately because they are in the hands of industrial leaders and government, still the people of Mysore fear to start other enterprises which will yield enormous wealth to the nation.

When I suggested to start the diesel engine factory in Mysore State, as the Bhadravathi Iron Works and Jog falls Electric Power are in their hands, as half of the capital for the Industry is

also available from foreign countries, the Industries Minister who is now in our midst, hesitated to negotiate and take up the scheme in their hands because of the financial involvement. He fears he may not get financial help from the Central Government or from other financiers. I don't think it will be so difficult. I hope Mysore Government will take more interest in this diesel industry though my efforts to start that industry in other states have failed more or less.

One day our friend Sri T. Siddalingaiya invited me to his residence. There were with him the directors and managers of the Iron Works and high Officers of the Industries Department. On account of his keen ambition he was discussing with me till 2 a. m. about the various matters. Now also leaving his work in Dasara he has come here to see the exhibition. Still I am insisting on him to utilize this rare opportunity by registering a company as a government concern and to raise capital by public shares; there is no season for hesitation. Though government is not investing any money, by running this as a government concern in addition to the transport scheme which I am preparing, I am sure the Mysore State and the neighbouring state of Madras can save atleast 5 to 8 crores per year. The diesel factory scheme is still under discussion. I do not want to say anything more openly as there may be some obstacles from different corners by selfish motives of some.

I have also to make one other suggestion. It is to start cottage industries and to develop them, for which there is much scope in Mysore State as several leaders have said that cottage industries are the back-bone for the industrial development of the country and for raising the living standard of the people.

The third suggestion I wish to make is this. In Mysore State in the Colleges, Polytechnics and Institutions we see, the education given is more useful and beneficial than in other states. I understand in some institutions already they have reduced the number of years for the full courses. I have seen the students who come from Mysore institutions to see this exhibition as well as for the Short Term courses in Automobile Servicing, Radio Servicing etc. They are enthusiastic and are very keen in their studies. They appreciate particularly the Short Term Courses which are being conducted here more than students from other places. Though I tried to show in practice to educational authorities and to the public and the students that the course can be shortened in the technical side of education from years to weeks, though a few parents and officials have appreciated my suggestion, though many students have appreciated it, none was courageous enough to take any step to introduce this system wherever it is possible to do so.

Now if you, Mr. A. G. Ramachandra Rao, as an Education Minister, can cut the red-tapism

that has grown up to now by various rules and if you can introduce this short term courses as conducted here, I say it will not only save enormous expenses to parents, but also it will save the expenses to government and to students. We can save the precious young years of students' life in addition to their gaining better practical knowledge on the technical side. Apart from these savings, the speedy training of these youngsters will fill up the gap of the urgent requirements of the skilled staff for the industrial development of our country.

I hope if both these Ministers adopt in their state something they have seen here in person, it will be appreciated by the public, and it will be a return for my efforts taken in this line. If they are definitely prepared to take up the schemes, I have referred to before, I am prepared to give any help in my power, if they require.

I believe they are not going to evade the issue. They will give out what they have in their minds and what they are going to do.

I am also very grateful for the ministers for having accepted my invitation to come and see this Exhibition and honour this party which is impossible to think while they have full engagements at Mysore for Dasara festivals.

Again I thank the Chief Guests and the guests who have responded to my invitation while they have other engagements in the town.

Thank you all.

Speech by

The Hon'ble Sri A. G. Ramachandra Rao,

Minister for Law & Education, Government of Mysore State.

Mr. Naidu and Friends,

Our host has been rather very critical about Democracy, red-tapism, its inefficiency and the minister being pulled by very strong strings of bureaucracy. Democracy is always a reign of mediocrity. You cannot expect, and you should not expect, great things from democracy because it is incapable of it. That has been the verdict of eminent historians. But yet, in Mysore, under the able leadership of Sri K. Hanumanthayya, we have been trained, to remedy some of the defects.

Till yesterday, I myself did not know that I would be coming here. But Mr. Siddalingaiya and myself told our Chief Minister and he readily agreed that we should go to Coimbatore to study the great things that our Honourable Host had been doing here. Of late we are hearing not only in Mysore but outside Mysore, even in Bombay, I have heard of his work here. It would be too premature for us to pass any verdict since we have been hardly a day here but yet compared to the number of technical institutions that we have got in Mysore, Mr. Naidu's experiment is unique. And though Mysore has started and has the number of good

industrial institutions and good educational institutions, we have not been able to raise the standard of life of either the middle class generally or of the other classes.

In order to raise the standard of living two things should be tackled. One is the colossal waste that is taking place among the educated students, who, after finishing their courses, do not get any employment in the first instant and will be wandering in the streets and have become frustrated and they are more or less the food for all sorts of isms, other than Gandhism, that is growing in our country. We have got to tackle that problem.

The next is that we are importing a number of articles which we can easily manufacture here. Those very imports are the various ways in which the life blood of our nation is going out of our country. That has got to be prevented. You see we want to do that. We have got to start a number of medium and small things in industries. From these two points since yesterday I have been looking at this institution. And I am really glad that Mr. Naidu, with his foresight and wisdom in studying the conditions of the country, has anticipated the needs of the country and has laid very fine foundations in order to meet these needs.

I saw here last night as well as this morning the simple thing, the razor blades. I think we ought to be ashamed that we can't produce

these razor blades and that we import them either from America or from the continent. But Mr. Naidu showed us the machinery, some sample of blades and, in fact, demonstrated the manufacturing process. I found they were all very simple. I asked him why he was not doing on a large scale and he replied that the licence was denied when sought for. This is a serious state of affairs. When a person is prepared to take up some good industry and when he wants to work it up he is denied the opportunity. There he didn't seek, I am sure, any money from the government or any other concessions and if that kind of permission is denied, I have got to know what we can do, what the public at large can do.

The next item. I don't think that there is any other person here without a watch, a wrist watch. I saw Mr. Naidu's watch-making departments. The various parts that are manufactured, they are all on the table here ready. I again put him the question why he has not gone further, and I got the same answer. I am only sorry that this state of affairs prevails, that he has not been helped in the little manner by which he should have been helped and I don't want to express further comment on this. I wish things will come round. One other thing I might say at this juncture. There is a kind of self-depreciation. We feel we are incompetent. We feel we are inefficient. We feel we cannot come up to the levels of other countries, as we have heard these remarks

made in several parts of the country, but the state of affairs seems to be quite contrary.

Yesterday in the Mysore Exhibition, I visited a stall put up by the Labour Department and already for two or three days some eminent Americans came in, visited the stall, saw the graphs, the statistics and other exhibits that have been exhibited there. One Prof. Hard and Mrs. Hard both who were interested in Labour, made a remark in the book, that in Mysore, the maternity benefit that is given for Labour, the methods of preventing the accidents and the number thereof were really much in advance of America. I was heartened to read that remark. And it seems that he told the Labour Commissioner that in the methods of canteen, in the methods of dealing with Labour we are in advance of the most advanced Western countries. I didn't know myself. I am a minister for Labour. I was feeling that we were bad and that we have to take some other steps which we did not know. That was a direct remark. It really heartens me. And that is why I am putting it that we need not be depressed or be indifferent, or diffident about these things.

The other thing is from Mr. Naidu himself. I asked him this morning as to the comparative capacity of Indians and Americans and Germans with whom he is quite familiar. He said our boys are more intelligent than the boys

of other countries; our boys are more industrious than those people and why we should still be depending upon foreign countries for those little things which are taking away the resources of our country, is a matter which ought to engage the attention of all of us and particularly the Governments and more particularly the Central Government. We hope that this state of affairs should be remedied shortly and Mr. Naidu, whatever other things he is suffering, unjustly perhaps, what I have heard from him would be remedied and would be set on his foot soon so that this place, I mean Coimbatore and more particularly this Institution, shines as the beacon of light for the rest of the country to go forward (Cheers).

I came here to study from the Educational point of view. I have brought my friend Mr. Ramaswamy, the Principal of the Engineering College. It is a private college. Government is not giving any aid to that college and the last half-a-dozen years or so it is working. And in these technical institutions particularly we want to make the technical education practical and at the same time less burdensome both to the students as well as to the parents. Many of the students worthy of being admitted to the college are denied because they are not provided with the wherewithal to admit them. So the ideal before us is to make the students also earn a part of the expense at least, if not the full, so that they might get education that they need, so that by educating themselves, especially in

technical courses to a greater extent they might readily enrich the resources of our country. And the example that we see here in this institution, I am sure, Mr. Ramaswamy will study, try to mould, to see the atmosphere around him in his particular college so that it might become a proper example for the rest of Mysore to follow.

We have, under the inspired leadership of our Chief Minister, chalked out a practicable programme of education, and with the food problem taken in right earnest, we can be said to have given priority in order of their importance.

I am grateful to Sri Naidu to have given me this opportunity and to all of you who have kindly listened to me.

Thank you. (Cheers).

Speech by

Hon'ble Mr. T. Siddalingaiya,

Minister for Industries, Government of Mysore.

Mr. Naidu, Sir Shanmukham Chetty and friends:

During the recent All-India Manufacturers' Central Committee Meeting at Bangalore, I had the privilege of meeting Mr. G. D. Naidu. I had heard that he was a genius, a monster of intelligence, of scientific talents. etc. etc. My son had been here to this Institute. He had also told me very fantastic stories about his life, his hostel, his method of his managing his fleet and his injecting the trees, to grow 2 inches taller every day.

But when I was introduced to Mr. Naidu, I felt a new touch of warmth from his hand. Immediately I conspired with another friend of mine. It was on the 15th, Sir M. Visvesvarya's 93rd birthday, I, as the president of the Bhadravathi Iron and Steel Works, gave a dinner to Sir M. Visvesvaraya at which His Highness Raj Pramukh was also present in the Palace Grounds. From there we "kidnapped" Mr. G. D. Naidu, and took him to my house, away from the busy life of the city and began talking. We wanted to know something which is practical and could be given effect to immediately and make industry run quicker. But Mr. Naidu didn't yield fruit immediately. He

wanted me to know all his exploits. From the beginning of his carrer he started. For four and a half hours he went on talking and talking, we had not reached the end of even the personal history. The guests, unmindful of personal discomforts listened to Mr. Naidu with close attention till 2 am.

Mr. Naidu appeared to be untiring, you know his energy. Such rigour of life and discipline he has practised himself and he wants everyone of us to practise. Well, my wonder has been how all the people, most of whom are mediocres, can come up to his standard and discipline of life. It is impossible. I fought and fought with him, asked him to lower down his standard, give other people also an opportunity to enjoy the fruits of his greatness. Everybody has got his weakness. After all, if Christian Religion is to be taken as a model of expression, we are born of sin. It is human nature. But Mr. Naidu wants us all to achieve divine perfection immediately. He wants us all to give up wife and children, our luxuries of life. He does not want cinema, he does not want anything. Always work, work, work, nothing but work and of course, his great purpose is that our country must rise to the highest level of industrial education. It must become greater than America. Everybody recognizes his great desire and respects him for his great purpose in life, for his talents. Wherever I go in this town, what is it do I hear? That Mr. Naidu is a great man and a good man; but, but, but (laughter).

Mr. Naidu has given many compliments to me and to my colleague of the Mysore Ministry. I can't forget that. All his compliments I know, as a saying in a vernacular, 'backhanded'. Without a sting there is no compliment when Mr. Naidu speaks. All the praises we know will be followed by rebukes but all this in good faith. He is a past-master in the art of speaking, though he is not a politician. He is not a lawyer. Probably he did not study English in any school or college. But yet he has a knack, though he speaks very bad grammer some times (laughter) but the knack of impressing us all with his greatness, with his learning, with his intelligence, with his purposefulness and with his great sense of honesty and discipline and integrity, we are all impressed with that. He may rebuke and rebuke, but still we can't run away from him, we are somehow yoked to him. I mean if I had his genius, I don't know what I would have done. Probably I would have been nowhere here. But with the little feeling of love of country, I feel I should put him into jail if that would serve the purpose and force him to yield his talents for the benefit of our country. But he will break open the jail and no jailer, no chains, yes, nothing can chain him. What I should do, I don't know. I have consulted the most talented people among our friends. I mean he alone can determine the solution for some of the problems that are before us. He attacks all the governments. He attacks their corruptions. There are no saints in any country on earth.

The rigour of rules of Mr. Naidu, I think to some extent must be diluted, must be softened. Mr. Naidu sits on the corner as it is, unconcerned about all that I speak here. I don't want that attitude on the part of Mr. Naidu. He smokes cigarettes and then puts them off, as if nobody need give a sermon to him. I know he will probably give me a sermon, after this function is over when I go back to my room. But I take the risk and say: "We as ministers are very enthusiastic about doing great things. Things are improving in this country. There was great corruption at the dawn of independence. Some of these jobbers became very corrupt, some of them very bad, but things are improving. Some of these things are bound to improve, the ministers also everywhere". I was talking to Sir Shanmukham Chetty just now. I was telling him even at the centre, things are changing very much and the ministers are becoming very realistic. What happened 4 or 5 years ago will not happen hereafter.

Therefore I feel Mr. Naidu must give up his pessimistic attitude. When I have a talent, I must not lose it. I must give it to the country, to the world, all with a bit of humanity. It is not everybody who will be gifted with that talent of his eminence. He is not an engineer only, he is not merely an agriculturist, he is not merey a doctor; I don't know what he is not; such versatility of genius in the whole country is rare, indeed. I think Sir Shanmukham Chetty, by my side, will also admit there was

not another person born with Mr. Naidu's talent of administration, but he must know that he is living amongst human beings, who are his kith and kin and the country is in great need for his talents as Sir M. Visvesvaraya has been feeling for half-a-century. Only by industrialisation we can prosper; otherwise we perish. All that Mr. Naidu knows, but why should he keep back that talent without putting it to proper use? By giving it for the benefit of other people he might be saying 'it is undesirable, peoples don't deserve, Goverments don't deserve and all that. But what is that government? It is the people who are running the government to day, what does it matter? Tomorrow another set of people will come. The people also will change'. After all, humanity is a flowing river but this talent cannot be flowing at every generation of mankind. We have seen great scientists like Bose and C. V. Raman. But they don't have this administrative capacity also, of exactly giving effect in a concrete form to what he knows. They are masters in their own subjects. But here is a man who looks to me as a master of everything.

He suggested in Mysore, the starting of diesel factory. Who doesn't want a diesel factory to be started? We all want it. We have got oil, we have got electricity. What we want is today money. He says easily money will come. Governments as he himself has admitted are not as fast as one would wish. To

raise a crore of rupees is not so easy. There is Central Government. Everything is to pass through certain methods and we have very recently started many other things - expansion of cement factory. We are likely to make about 30,000 tons per quarter. We have expanded our iron and steel works, electric iron furnaces. We have again Jog falls. We have been thinking of taking up another big expansion scheme of Jog Falls – stage No. 3 called Honnaimarudu Project. We have got also this trouble simultaneously of rainlessness, famine everywhere.

Certainly Mr. Naidu's great purpose is appreciated on all sides but execution needs a little more toleration on his part. We are not lacking behind in enthusiasm but execution, well, certainly it will be taken up; it is in the interests of our country. We all realize that, but we can't run as fast as Mr. Naidu and about other matters which he has referred to, certainly I think we all feel this industrial education that we are giving to our children is no education; it neither teaches morals, neither teaches how to maintain oneself. What is the good of such education? Morals cannot be taught in schools. Only by making everybody work hard in co-operation with other people and in the course of doing some active work and earning, then only a spirit of brotherliness, friendship, a spirit of co-operation can be created. That will create a greater sense of morals among children which will make them good citizens for the future.

Therefore mere education for its own sake, reading, writing and going on answering question papers, going on getting degree after degree, all these things we have realized at great cost that they are useless and in Mysore we want to bring about radical changes. Our chief minister and our education minister are at it very seriously. Therefore how to do it? My belief is, it is only through industry, manual labour which increases the brain power also. People who read books and books – what is that? "All work and no play"; that must go. This work itself is a play. Let us all sit at some kind of work. We go on making some kind of machinery. It pleases one to concentrate on that work. Music, we have to concentrate. Industry, we have to concentrate. That is so pleasing. It pleases the minds and we learn through industry our morals, as well as improve intelligence and Mr. Naidu's great principle that education through industry must be the order of the day is a great principle with which I think we have no difference. Let us give up this madness for degrees.

It is very hard to reconcile ourselves to the idea of giving up. What is the good of our own children? We know after they pass their examinations, they won't be able to earn anything. Whatever property parents have earned will be spent away in getting a degree. After getting the degree he does not know what to do. I am talking of most cases. 95% cases are like that. 5% may be silver spooned born. They may get on even without a job but the generality

of our people must be taught how to earn before they get a degree. If they get a degree even at the last period of their life, it does not matter.

We know in foreign countries, many people after knowing how to work and earn, they go to university and learn reading and writing, they read history, they take degrees in philosophy. First thing is to earn, to increase wealth, to increase production, make themselves strong economically. That, we all know, we are very familiar, whoever reads any papers or anything about foreign countries. We know they are not mad like us about degrees. They all work. In their 50th year some people go to university and take a degree. That is a luxury but today every father thinks that his son must become a graduate. Even though he does not earn, it doesn't matter, but he must be called the father of a graduate son. This kind of idea is a sheer madness. Therefore Mr. Naidu's principle is the noblest principle, is a principle which will fulfil the great needs of a poor country like ours. Start with Industry. Agriculture also is an industry. When we say industry, it should not be taken in the narrow sense of either mills or cottage industries. I say agriculture also is an industry. Whatever requires skill through human labour, manual hand, is industry. Nobody doubts it. As Mr. Naidu has put it, nobody doubts, that Indians are intelligent. I think I am making too long a speech. I would rather cut short.

I mean about our intelligence. Mr. Rolley, an American and a colleague of our friend Mr. M. S. Shaw who actually worked up the Bangalore Aeroplane factory, has written one article in the Readers' Digest some two or three years ago in which he says the skill which was exhibited by the children of our village goldsmiths, ordinary villagers, was of a higher order than that of the greatest engineer in America. No greater compliment than that could be given to the intelligence of our young men. If we properly make use of that, certainly, India need not be backward. It will be more forward than any other country in the world.

Mr. Naidu, I appeal to you again. Have consideration for others. Don't try to enforce the rigour with which you have shaped your life. You are a great man. Everybody recognizes that. Everybody cannot rise. We can only look at you with a kind of awe and respect. He must give up the rigour; otherwise, I think with the great wealth he possesses, he is the only man on earth so far as our country is concerned who can raise the industrial status of our country; with the beginning which he makes, within ten years, I think we can compete with any other country if he puts his heart into the work. But today he doesn't put the heart into the work. He is so much engrossed in which other things and other persons are the circumference. No, he must give up the circumference. He must sit at the centre, hammer, hammer, hammer, forget all those who

abuse him. Probably like me, many may find fault with him, many may put him to all kinds of inconveniences, but as a man of gift of noble purpose and a high sense of service, I say the benefit of his genius should not be lost to our country. We have all appreciated that. It is only industry, industry that can save our country. It is industry that can make us moral. Today the minds of most of our people are devils' workshops. Because they don't do industry, they begin to do education and then go to cinema to see all kinds of bad things. There are also good things in the cinema. I don't deny that. That level of morality can be also improved only by industrializing our minds. Whatever might be, I cannot go on arguing.

I express my great appeal, my humble appeal to Mr. Naidu. Well, it is in God's hands. I don't know if he believes in God's hands also. Well in my way at least, to show that I feel very sincerely also, I make an appeal which is very sincere, very honest. I say God's name because that is the best and the highest thing upon which I can make an appeal. Mr. Naidu, please come down. Don't wrangle about petty people. Petty people are there. You neglect them. And show that greater thing can be achieved by our country and that by your initiation. I believe I am making this appeal not merely on behalf of myself. If I may put it to you, I think I am making this appeal on behalf of all those who have gathered

here. Is there any doubt about it? He must remove that "but"; otherwise there must be some people prepared for what is known as Satyagraha. He has a great quality of human kindness. Certainly any kind of truthful appeal and genuine appeal will have its effect. I am making this appeal and it will bear fruit and that, without much loss of time. I am so sorry that I have taken much of your time and Mr. Naidu, I do not know, if he has to give his reply now.

I am so happy, sir, it is a privilege I came here some years ago. I joined Coimbatore Intermediate College in 1915 or 1914 for one month. When I got a seat in Mysore Maharaja's College, I went away. From 1914, it is now 38 years and I felt since than a great longing that I must come here. I always feel and many of my friends also are telling that Coimbatore and Bangalore are like sisters, like twin sisters, not even cousin sisters, in habit, in climate and in most of other things. I do not know when you come to Bangalore whether you feel the same way or not. I feel and have always felt these 40 years of my experience, there is not much difference either in the nature or in the human nature.

And I am so happy that Mr. Naidu gave me an opportunity of studying all these things. We came here to clarify our ideas, about education. You know he is a big engine, he is a big dynamo. I saw all the dynamos here.

They are only simply sparks of that big coil in him and they cleared very much in our minds what the type of education should be. I don't know at our conference what decisions we are going to take.

I won't waste any more of your time, sir. I am happy that he invited me here and that I have made full use of the opportunity of having come, though I don't understand his science, his dynamos or all his firework or his genius. I am not capable of those things. But still I felt impressed that there is a man who can make vast changes in the country provided he minds. I have made this appeal in your presence. Sir Shanmukham Chetty also is there. I am sure he will also throw his weight with me invisibly and all of you will make an appeal and pray to God. It doesn't matter we pray to God to show our sincerity and Mr. Naidu may yield to our appeal not to be persistent, obstinate to soften himself. So many people are appealing to him. I am sure he will also make good response to our appeal.

I thank you all, gentlemen. (Cheers)

Vote of thanks by

Mr. S. Ramanathan,

Editor 'Rationalist,' Madras,

Friends,

Mr. Naidu has asked me to say a few words and propose a vote of thanks to our distinguished guests and to you all for having so kindly responded to his invitation. The Honourable minister for Industries for Mysore has made a personal appeal also to Mr. Naidu which he is considering and which you are all considering. But the problem is not so very simple as the Honourable Minister supposes. We are met here in the presence of Mr. Naidu as his admirers. Not only inside this hall but outside this hall, in the country, there are numerous admirers of his and they are also meeting in the midst of all these engines, valuable engines which ought not to be here as mere exhibits of museum but ought to be functioning and producing wealth for this country.

And what is the problem now? Even as these engines are lying idle, Mr. Naidu's genius is lying idle. And who is responsible? Is it possible for us to make these engines work and function by appealing to them, by praying to them, even lying on our knees before them?

It is not possible. You must create the physical conditions for them to function and then they will jump to life and function. Even so, Mr. Naidu whom our honoured guest referred to as a big dynamo will function the moment the conditions and environments are created.

And what is wrong with the environment? That is the problem for you and me. That is the problem for the wide public and the whole country to solve to day. What is the problem? I request the Honourable Ministers who have honoured us by their presence to think about that problem. There is no use of appealing to Mr. Naidu or to anybody. (Question: What is that problem?) The problem is this: Let us for a moment cast off our party labels, our own mental apathy and think of this country. This country is not put in the same position as Mr. Naidu. There is plenty of talent, there is wealth, there is material, there are expert workers also, educated people going about unemployed. Even the Education Minister here has told us about unemployed men in Mysore with great technical qualifications. There is wealth in the country, but they are not producing. They are idle even as these engines are idle, even as Mr. Naidu is idle. Why?

When Mr. Naidu puts an application to the Government for a licence, it is denied to him in spite of his expert knowledge, in spite of his having acquired the machinery already, in

spite of his having mastered the various details of production. It is denied to him. But another corrupt white-capped Srijut goes, oils the machines of Government and then gets the licence overnight. When Mr. Naidu sees that, that great injustice, as a human being, what will be his reaction? That in this corrupt country we cannot exist as honest-to-God human beings. In the midst of these corrupt officials it is not possible. The Hon'ble Minister was quite right in saying that corruption is not peculiar to this country. There is curruption everywhere. But what are we doing about it? Why is it that corruption is not being properly met?

In my humble opinion the mistake lies not in the corrupt officials but in the people, in the system, in the leadership which has given them the opportunity to be corrupt. The Industries Minister said here wisely that idle minds are corrupt, are inclined to vice. So there is idleness in the administration, in the offices. That is why they are corrupt. They have got enough time to be corrupt and to fleece money from the public. They are not driven as officials should be driven towards a grand goal of industrialization for the country. There is Sir M. Visvesvaraya. There is Mr. Naidu. There are the Hon. Ministers who have told us in so many words that they believe in the industrialization of this country. But do they mean it sincerely? I doubt it. The public in India doubts it. (A Voice: What do you mean?) Because professedly in their programme, in their

policies, they have got two things in their minds. They waver. They wobble. They advocate at one place "industrialisation", at another place they cry, 'let us go back to the golden age of the past'. You see their loyalty is not one-sided because they are free.

I know I have been a Khadi worker as many of you know. I know why Gandhiji began all that movement but these people don't know. These people who came into the congress yesterday put on Khadder not because of patriotism and every black-marketeer puts on Khadder, but there is no respect for khadder today. And this, their swearing of false allegiance is a thing which is well known to the public and they know they do not mean what they say, and their entire industrial policy is vitiated by that. There is no drive at the top for real industrialisation.

I am not only speaking about the Congress party, even the other party that is born yesterday, the Praja Socialist Party, they are also talking about going back to the village. Their emphasis is not on industrialisation. They are not all Sir M. Visvesvarayas. That is the whole tragedy. I am not making a political speech. You see, that drive, that faith the determination to industrialize this country is utterly lacking. What is it therefore they are creating?; and there is no hope at all. (A Voice: There is no hope). That is why this country is in danger of communism. This country is not prepared. They hate communists.

Violence is not in their blood. The communists are violent, but their object lesson is there. A country more backward than India, a country infinitely more backward with less resources has jumped to the forefront and today the mightiest country in the world, U. S. A. is afraid of them; why?; because they took industrialisation with vigour, with determination and with faith in it.

Question by Sri T. Siddalingaiya: Are you arguing out any case, or are you replying for Mr. Naidu? All your arguments don't seem to be Mr. Naidu's. You seem to be taking the loan of Mr. Naidu himself. That was not expected, I think, as reply. This is not for argument. I think one can make an appeal. It must be either considered or something otherwise, but not argued against it.

Mr. Ramanathan: I am not arguing anything. I am only saying.

Mr. Siddalingaiya: Mr. Ramanathan! you are not correct. I think your attitude won't be appreciated by anybody here. Let anyone say that your attitude is alright. We have all made an appeal not to get a rejection like yours.

Mr. Ramanathan: I am not rejecting. It is for Mr. Naidu to reject or accept. I am saying what is working in his mind. As a human being he cannot respond to mere appeals.

Mr. Siddalingaiya: You should not simply close the doors by talking like this.

Mr. Ramanathan: I am not closing the door. It is for him. He is considering like that.

Mr. Naidu: I asked him to insist that you should first start these industries and afterwards ask the Central Government.

Mr. Siddalingaiya: That we will do. We are all very eager to take up. Really any new industry which will save a few lakhs or crores or a few thousands we want to start.

So far as starting diesel factory is concerned and not only that, even more than that, automobile factory is under our consideration. Sir M. Visvesvaraya is very particular about it, because he wants us to make use of Mr. G. D. Naidu's talents. But for all these with all our honest efforts, if we don't get money what can we do. Therefore I think the appeal was made in the earnest hope that all these things will be done and on his part Mr. Naidu must give the benefit of his genius to the country, by working all these things for production and whatever may be the differences that are between himself and the government. There are wretched people as I have already explained, people whose moral character or whose nastiness is beyond toleration. I know all that. I feel very strongly. Mr Naidu knows also that I am feeling. I know Mr. Naidu is also up against these things. We will all take our cudgels and it is a little slower process. For the sake of our difference about the pace of

progress I do not want Mr. Naidu should get wounded and make a determination, "I refuse to give the services of my genius to you because you are all corrupt people". I don't want him to say that.

Mr. Ramanathan: Mr. Naidu only wanted to make this distinction that Ministers from Mysore are in a more advantageous position. His difficulty is with the Centre and the Madras Government and he has paid a compliment to you, ministers from Mysore and you have now an opportunity and he is placing his services at your disposal as distinguished from the hostile treatment he received here. So while emphasizing his own difficulties in this State as well as his relationship with the Centre, now you have an opportunity in Bhadravathi and in other places. His services are at your disposal; if you are going to carry forward that scheme, he will be one with you. Not only that, he also wants to tell you that, "don't be afraid of the Centre if you approach the public, there is the public in India." There is the public in Madras. We shall be at your service because the public in India feels this need for industrialization while the people at the top don't. That is his point. This is the point that he wanted to express.

And once again I express the thanks of Mr. Naidu for you and for those friends who have responded to his invitation (cheers).

Further speech of

Mr. A. G. Ramachandra Rao,

Minister for Law and Education, Govt. of Mysore.

Friends :

I would again with permission of Mr. Naidu speak a few words. In my short remarks I made rather very mild suggestion as to what we should do with the Central Government. Because while approaching the Central Government it is no use of rubbing shoulders. It is better to give a rational approach and try to defend the whole thing. Why so, I wish to appeal to Mr. Naidu in this way. Of course the greatest leader in Industry to-day in India is Sir M. Visvesvaraya. There is no doubt about it. He was about to start a Motor Industry in Mysore in 1940—42. That also you know. He has even got the permission of His Highness. But for political consideration it was switched off by the then Viceroy Lord Linlithgow. But to-day Sir M. Visvesvaraya, undaunted by that, is working up for it and along with so many others. I would earnestly request Mr. Naidu to have that spirit of non-frustration and non-defeatism. If we want to succeed, we must try to overcome with courage and conviction that I either succeed or lay foundations for success. I pray to Mr. Naidu to have that spirit and at the same time rely on the Mysore Government to do its best in that matter. With these few words I thank you, Mr. Naidu and all. (Cheers).

U—49—92

Printed at
U. M. S. Power Press,
Coimbatore.